

217838US-0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
HERMANN PUETTER ET AL. :
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN. : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH
(Based on PCT/EP00/07026)
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: PREPARATION OF ALPHA-OXIDIZED
CARBONYL COMPOUNDS

4/A
CA.

6/24/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

A¹
5. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, where the compound of the formula I is 2,2,3,3-tetramethoxypropanol, and the starting compound employed is methylglyoxal dimethyl acetal.

6. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, where the anions of the metal salt (S) are derived from mineral acids.